IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the original abstract with the following:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for joining bodies (41, 50, 51, 65, 66) by melting down a joining element (1, 20, 30, 52, 67, 75, 80). The joining element (1, 20, 30, 52, 67, 75, 80) acts on a surface (4, 40, 59) of one of the bodies (41, 50, 51, 65, 66) and penetrates the surface as a result of a directed force (F). In penetrated condition, a mechanical excitation is generated such that during further penetration of the joining element (1, 20, 30, 52, 67, 75, 80) into the one body (41, 50, 51, 65, 66), the advance is maintained through the directed force (F) and the melting down is maintained through the mechanical excitation. Molten or melted material is hydraulically displaced into the bodies (41, 50, 51, 65, 66).